

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the fourth paragraph on page 9 as follows:

Referring to the figures, and in particular to FIG. 1, the present invention is directed to systems and methods by which a server **10** can contact an account holder **12** of an Internet access account (IAA) **14** on an ISP **16** being used by a user **18** making a request **20** from the server **10**. The server **10** is a server on a network **22**, such as the Internet (and such should be treated as synonymous for this invention). The ISP **16** is connected to the same network **22**. A client computer system **24** is connected to the ISP **16** as permitted by the Internet access account **14** established or supervised with the ISP **16** by the account holder **12**. The user **18** through his client computer system (or "client") **24**, the ISP **16**, and the network **22** can make requests **20** of the server **10**. The server **10** can send responses **26** to the user **18** through the network **22**, the ISP **16**, and the client computer system.

Please replace the fifth paragraph on page 9 as follows:

The server **10** manages requests **20** for resources **28** from computer client systems **24**. For the purposes of this invention, the resource **28** is any information, file, or service provided by the server **10** to a client. The server **10** can be a Web server, in which case the resources **28** requested are Web pages, and the requests **20** and responses **26** are done according to hypertext transfer protocol (abbreviated HTTP). The Web server **10** can be hosted on any number of hardware computing platforms (computers) known to those of ordinary skill in the art. A Web server **10** can also use a wide variety of software as appropriate for the operating system selected. Thus, UNIX systems can use APACHE or NETSCAPE, a NOVELL Web server can use NETWARE WEB SERVER (such as is included with INTRANETWARE), a WINDOWS NT system can use INTERNET INFORMATION SERVER, or a MACINTOSH system can use APPLESARE IP 6, MACHHTTP, or WEB-STAR. The server **10** can also be an FTP (file transfer protocol) server that provides files, a news server (often using NNTP, but possibly a product such as

DNEWS) that provides news service (such as USENET news), or a chat server (such as an IRC server) that provides a series of messages. A server 10 can even serve interactive sessions hosted by TELNET and the like.

Please replace the fourth paragraph on page 10 as follows:

The ISP 16 manages its Internet 22 access via accounts 14. The ISP 16 can define an account 14 by a username that tracks the usage of the account 14 and assures that a given connection is a usage of the ISP's 16 resources 28—authorized by the ISP 16. To limit the use of the account 14 to authorized uses, an ISP 16 will ordinarily assign a password associated with the user 18 name. For example, the ISP 16 may allow only one connection to its system using a particular user 18 name at a time, or may only permit the account 14 to be used during certain hours or for a certain amount of time each month. The ISP 16 can also use the account 14 to monitor usage for billing purposes. For example an ISP 16 could bill the account holder 12 based on the bandwidth used, the amount of time the account 14 is active, a combination of those, or other factors that the ISP 16 desires and to which the account holder 12 agrees.

Please replace the second paragraph on page 14 as follows:

In one method of the present invention, the user 18 requests 58 a resource 28 from the server 10 using the client computer system 24. It will be understood by those of ordinary skill in the art that the actual request 20 for a resource 28 may have preceded the user 18 connecting the client computer system 24 to the ISP 16 and triggered the connection to the ISP 16 via an automatic connection mechanism, such as present in WINDOWS 98 connection manager. Various technicalities, such as the resolution of URLs and domain names, are well understood by those of ordinary skill in the art and are not an inventive aspect of the present invention. Those of ordinary skill in the art will understand how such tasks are accomplished, usually by the ISP 16, to route the user's 18 request 20 to the server 10.

Please replace the third paragraph on page 14 with the following:

The request 20 may be routed 62 directly to the server 10 by the ISP 16, or may be routed 62 indirectly through multiple routers and/or routing computers including third-party anonymizing services 38 such as provided by ZEROKNOWLEGE (www.zeroknowledge.com) among others. In one embodiment, the request 20 for a resource can be a request 20 for a Web page from a Web server 10 using a Web browser. The ISP 16 and or other third parties, such as anonymizing servers 38, may each assign 60 an apparent IP address 37 to the IP address that it received from the previous stage in the process. Each of these entities assigning 60 an IP address is an ISP 16 for the purposes of this invention, and can perform the logging 56 of apparent IP addresses 40 and the designation times 42 of those apparent IP addresses 40.

Please replace the fourth paragraph on page 14 as follows:

Referring to FIG. 3, the present invention contemplates systems and methods in which the server 10 receives a request 20 from the user 18 for a resource 28 and, in addition to the response 26 to the user 18, generates a notice 64 to the account holder 12 of the request 20. The notice 64 may be generated for a variety of reasons. First, regulations or statutes may require the operator of the server 10 to notify the account holder 12 of certain activity. As one example various commercial or moral child protection acts can require operators to contact parents regarding transactions proposed by children. Second, the operator of the server 10, in order to maintain a good commercial reputation or in good conscience can voluntarily decide to provide notices 64 as appropriate. For example, despite its entry into the adult content market, YAHOO! could decide to provide notices 64 voluntarily to account holders 12, even though it may not be required to do so by law in order to facilitate good public relations.

Please replace the second paragraph on page 15 as follows:

Still referring to FIG. 3, the server **10** receives **66** a request **20**. After receiving **66** the request **20**, the server **10** determines whether the server **10** needs to generate a notice **64** in order to provide the requested resource **28**, and what notice **64** is appropriate for the particular resource **28**. Examples of resource **28** content that could require notification of an account holder **12** are: pornographic material, hate material, material outlawed in particular countries (for example material critical of the Chinese government), and material soliciting the private information of minors (per The Children's Online Privacy Protection Act).

Please amend the third paragraph on page 15 as follows:

The code for determining a need for (or triggering) the generation of a notice **64** can be located in the resource **28** requested, in the server **10** itself, or in a database accessed by the server **10**. For example, a Web page can contain code to generate the notice **64** or call a program to generate the notice **64** when it is accessed by the server **10**. For example, Active Server Pages can be used to provide Web pages while simultaneously generating a notice **64**. Alternatively, the Web server **10** itself can be programmed to trigger the generation of the same notice **64** for all Web pages it serves. In another alternative, the Web server **10** can use a database, whether incorporated into the Web server **10** or in a separate application or file, to trigger the generation the notice **64**.

Please amend the first paragraph on page 17 as follows:

The server **10** can generate **76** the notice **64**. It should be noted that although it is preferred for the server **10** to generate **76** the notice **64** after attempting to identify **72** a notice destination **74**, such is not necessary. The notice **64** comprises: 1) the apparent IP address **37** of the client computer system **24**; 2) the time and date that the server **10** received the request **20**; and 3) the communication **78** that the server **10** desires to impart to the account holder **12**. The apparent IP address **37** of the client computer system **24** is the IP address to which the

server **10** will send the requested resource **28**. The apparent IP address **37** can be, but is not necessarily, the actual IP address **34** of the client computer system **24**. As discussed above, proxy servers **36** and or anonymizing servers **38** may be in use, so the server **10** does not know if the IP address is the actual IP address **34** of the final destination. The time and date include time zone so that an offset can be applied to reconcile the time of the notice **64** with the local time of the eventual interpretation of the notice **64**.

Please amend the second paragraph on page 17 as follows:

Referring to FIG. 4, in a simple embodiment of the invention, the server **10** sends the notice **64** to the ISP **16**. The ISP **16** receives **84** the notice **64** from the standardized communications pathway **82**. The ISP **16** then processes **86** the notice. In an embodiment where the standardized communications pathway **82** is email, the receiving mail (often SMTP) server can process the notice by searching the recipient field to determine the requesting IP address contained in the notice **64**. A preferred simple method is to have the IP address be the designated recipient as part of the email address such as xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx@DOMAIN. For situations where a notice **64** is being forwarded, the forwarding entity can substitute a new recipient for the email address using the same information that would be used to forward the response **28** from the server **10** to the request **20**, constituting a new destination IP address.